

A SERIES IN MATTHEW 5-7

# SUMMER ON THE MOUNT

# DISCUSSION GUIDE

© GROUPS







## MATTHEW 6:1-6; 16-18

### HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

The goal is to see how **the followers of Christ live for the pleasure of God, not the praise of others.**

### CONNECT

Use these questions to begin the discussion:

1. What has been your favorite part of the summer thus far and what are you most looking forward to for the remainder of summer?

### READ THE TEXT

Ask a group member to read the following text out loud: **Matthew 6:1-6; 16-18**

### DISCUSS & APPLY

These questions are designed to help us **know, love, and serve** God fully. Don't feel pressure to get through all the questions, especially if you find that your group needs to spend extra time in one place.

1. In verses 1-4 we are warned against sinful motives for giving. What are sinful motives and what are righteous motives for giving?
2. Within Jesus' warning in verses 1-4 is a clear implication that giving to the poor is a good and right thing to do. How have you demonstrated generosity in the past and how can you exercise greater generosity in the future when it comes to meeting other's needs?
3. Read verses 5-6. What might be some reasons found in this passage, and elsewhere in Scripture, that we pray?
4. What does your prayer life look like? How can you take steps to improve it this week?
5. Read verses 16-18. What might be some reasons found in this passage, and elsewhere in Scripture, that we fast?
6. Have you ever fasted? What was the outcome?



7. Within each of these verses we find the need for proper motives behind obedient acts in order for it to truly be considered righteousness. Have you ever found yourself doing the right thing for the wrong reason? Why might that be an issue and how do you address it?
8. From a biblical perspective, how does God reward our righteous acts, whether it be giving, praying, or fasting?
9. Perhaps being braggadocios about giving, praying, or fasting isn't an issue you struggle with. Do you find that to be because of a humble attitude toward each or is it rooted in an apathetic attitude toward giving, praying, or fasting?
10. Take some time to go around the room and collect prayer requests and spend time in prayer altogether or in smaller groups.

## PRAY

Thank God for the gift of His church. Pray for a desire to make love the motivation for all that we do. Ask God to help your group grow in their spiritual gifts and desire to use them to serve the church and to evangelize.

## COMMUNITY GROUP MISSION PARTNERS

As we seek to make gospel-centered disciples among all people for the glory of God, we step into our communities and the rest of the world as ambassadors of Christ. Our community groups have an awesome opportunity to serve together in this mission by adopting a local partner and an international partner to invest in. To adopt a local and international partner, fill out this form:

<https://christcommunity.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/573/responses/new>

